

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Presented below is a complete listing of claims in the revised format showing markings as set forth by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 31, 2003:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for executing an action in response ~~responding~~ to a message entered by a user in a computer system, the apparatus comprising:

- a user input device for receiving an input message from the user;
- a parser to identify a keyword in the input message, the parser to associate the input message to an information object associated with the keyword; and
- a user output device to provide, prior to the message being sent, an indication of an action to be taken by the associated information object in response to the message ~~from present information to the user.~~

2-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

- the parser further to detect the presence of a keyword in the message immediately upon the completion of a keyword, the parser to reparse the message whenever a word delimiter is detected in the message.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[21]] 1, wherein the parser is further to reparse the message upon detection of any keystroke, to immediately detect completion of a keyword.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a set of information objects, each information object designed to execute one or more actions when triggered by the user.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the action taken by the information object is based upon the contents of the input message other than the keyword.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the action combines data from the input message with data extracted from other sources determined by the particular information object.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the action comprises one or more of the following: posting to one or more data repositories, querying one or more data sources, triggering the execution of a stored program.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the indication of the action is presented by the user output device at one or more of the following times: immediately upon detection of a keyword while the message is entered, before the

completed message is dispatched for execution, and after the message is dispatched, to confirm the initiation of the action.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the indication comprises one or more of the following: presenting output to indicate the presence of a keyword to the user, presenting user prompt information associated with the selected information object to the user.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising: a mechanism to override the selected information object, and redirect the action.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising: the user input device further to enable the user to enter a command to initiate execution of the selected action.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising: the user input device further to allow the user to override the a selection of the information object determined by the parser and presented by the output device after reviewing the action shown by the indication and prior to dispatching the message, and enabling the user to select an alternate information object for execution of the desired action.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

when the parser does not detect a keyword in the message, the user interface enabling the user to select an information object from a list of available information objects.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a list of keywords and the actions each of the keywords invokes available for the user's review while composing the message.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a user input device to enable the user to customize the system by adding an alias to keywords associated with an information object, the alias used to invoke the information object in subsequent user messages.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
the user output device, upon execution of the action, to present to the user information obtained by executing the action called for in the input message.

36. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
an object database including a plurality of information objects, each information object coupled to one or more keywords;
a user interface to receive a user input message;
a parser to parse the user input message to detect one or more keywords and select the related one or more information objects; and

a user output device to provide feedback to the user indicating the action to be taken by the selected one or more identified information objects prior to executing the information object coupled to the detected keyword.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the user interface and the user output device are on a client device, and the object database and the parser are on a server.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the client device is a mobile system, further comprising a communication unit to communicate with the server.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the information objects execute one or more actions including: triggering a second information object, posting to a data repository, querying a data source.

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 39, wherein the second information object, comprising one or more of the following: a data repository or a data source, is on a remote server.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the user may override the selection of the information object presented in the feedback.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, further comprising:

one or more aliases for the keyword, the aliases created by the user, to enable customization.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the system waits for user confirmation prior to triggering the information object to take action.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the parser continuously parses the user input message to immediately detect the keyword.

45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 44, wherein the user interface further displays the identity of the detected information object to the user immediately upon detection of the keyword.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the information displayed comprises one or more of the following: the detected keyword, the identity of linked information object, the action to be taken by the information object, a description of the action to be taken by the information object, and a prompt instructing the user how to complete the message.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, further comprising:
a first device including the user interface and the output device, to enable a first user to enter a keyword to create a message to a second user;
a second device including a user interface and a user output device used by the second user, to receive the message from the first device.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, further comprising:
a messaging system to create the message including a header for the message
based on the keywords, and to send the message to the second user.

49. (Currently Amended) A method to respond to a message comprising:
receiving an input message from a user;
identifying a keyword in the input message;
associating the input message with an information object associated with the
keyword; and
presenting information to the user based on the information object prior to
executing the information object.

50. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein the parser parses the message
upon detecting a word delimiter.

51. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein the parser parses the message
character-by-character as it is entered by the user.

52. (New) The method of claim 49, further comprising:
determining if no keyword is identified in the input message, and
if no keyword is identified in the input message then associating a default
information object with the input message.

53. (New) An apparatus for executing action in response to a message entered by a user in a computer system, the apparatus comprising:

- a user input device for receiving an input message from the user;
- a parser to identify a keyword in the input message, the parser to parse the input message as it is entered to immediately detect a keyword as it is entered, and the parser further to associate the input message to an information object associated with the keyword; and
- a user output device to provide information to the user.

54. (New) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the parser parses the input message upon detection of a word delimiter.

55. (New) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the parser parses the input message character-by-character as it is entered by the user.

56. (New) The apparatus of claim 53, further comprising:

- the user input device to enable a user to customize keywords, by adding an alias to keywords associated with an information object, the alias used to invoke the information object.

57. (New) A system for executing an action in response to a message entered by a user in a computer system, the apparatus comprising

- a plurality of keywords, each keyword associated with one or more information objects, the execution of the information object causing the action to occur;

a keyword including an alias created by a user, to customize the user's interaction with the system;

a user input device for receiving an input message from the user, the input message including at least one keyword;

a parser to identify the keyword in the input message, the parser to associate the input message to an information object associated with the keyword; and

a user output device to provide feedback to the user.